

Appln No. 09/997,264

Amdt date February 18, 2005

Reply to Office action of November 18, 2004

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) An installation for a circulation of part-carrying pallets, comprising:

a support frame for supporting modules for the circulation of the part-carrying pallets, in which said support frame comprises:

at least one vertical frame arrangement comprising a plurality of standard profile members rigidly welded together to form a rigid mecano-welded structure; and

at least two boxes each comprising a plurality of standard profile members rigidly welded together to form a mecano-welded structure, wherein each box is removably fixed on a respective side of said vertical frame arrangement, and wherein each box comprises an upper surfaced portion that receives at least one module that circulates the part-carrying pallets and a lower portion provided with adjustable feet for adjusting a horizontal positioning of said upper surfaced portion.

2. (Currently Amended) An installation for a circulation of part-carrying pallets, comprising:

a support frame for supporting modules for the circulation of the part-carrying pallets, in which said support frame comprises:

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at least one vertical frame arrangement comprising a plurality of standard profile members rigidly welded together to form a rigid mecano-welded structure; and

at least two boxes each comprising a plurality of standard profile members rigidly welded together to form a mecano-welded structure, wherein each box is removably fixed on a respective side of said vertical frame arrangement, and wherein each box comprises an upper surfaced portion that receives at least one module that circulates the part-carrying pallets and a lower portion provided with adjustable feet for adjusting a horizontal positioning of said upper surfaced portion
~~An installation according to claim 1,~~

wherein said plurality of standard profile members of said vertical frame arrangement and said plurality of standard profile members of said boxes are commercially available profile members of steel of type NIP, wherein NIP stands for Normalized I Profile.

3. (Previously Presented) An installation according to claim 1, wherein said vertical frame arrangement comprises a lower horizontal profile member, an upper horizontal profile member, an intermediate horizontal profile member and two vertical profile members connected to the respective ends of said horizontal profile members.

4. (Previously Presented) An installation according to claim 3, wherein said lower horizontal profile member extends substantially at the level of the lower portion of said boxes

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without however resting on the ground, and wherein said intermediate horizontal profile member extends substantially at the level of the upper surfaced portion of said boxes, and wherein said upper profile member extends at a spacing with respect to the level of said upper surfaced portion of said boxes.

5. (Previously Presented) An installation according to claim 1, wherein said vertical frame arrangement is provided on each side with six fixing plates which comprise four box fixing plates capable of being removably fixed to four homologous fixing plates forming part of one of the boxes and two frame arrangement fixing plates capable of being removably fixed on an adjacent vertical frame arrangement.

6. (Previously Presented) An installation according to claim 5, wherein said six fixing plates disposed on one side of said frame arrangement extend horizontally and comprise two lower plates fixed at the level of said lower profile member of said frame arrangement, two intermediate plates fixed at the level of said intermediate profile member and two upper plates fixed at the level of said upper profile member of said frame arrangement.

7. (Previously Presented) An installation according to claim 6, wherein said six fixing plates are co-planar and welded to said vertical frame arrangement and comprise three plates which extend beyond one of said vertical frame arrangement and

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three plates which extend beyond said adjacent vertical frame arrangement.

8. (Previously Presented) An installation according to claim 5, wherein said box fixing plates forming part of said frame arrangement are capable of being fixed respectively against said four homologous plates of one of the boxes by way of fixing means of a screw type and with an interposition of spacer plates.

9. (Previously Presented) An installation according to claim 5, wherein said fixing plates of each said box are coplanar and welded to a corresponding one of the boxes.

10. (Previously Presented) An installation according to claim 1, wherein each said box comprises four profile members forming said lower portion and supporting said adjustable feet, four profile members forming said upper surfaced portion and four vertical profile members connecting said lower portion and said upper surfaced portion.

11. (Withdrawn) A process for assembling an installation according to claim 1, comprising the following operations:

- a) assembling said frame arrangement on the ground;
- b) placing said frame arrangement vertically and holding it vertically;

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c) presenting said boxes on respective sides of said vertical frame arrangement and fixing them thereto;

d) repeating if necessary foregoing operations a) through c) for other frame arrangements and boxes to form said support frame of said installation;

e) assembling items of equipment or accessories to said support frame formed in that way; and

f) regulating the level by acting on said adjustable feet of said boxes.

12. (Withdrawn) A process according to claim 11, comprising the following supplementary operation:

g) fixing said modules] on said upper surfaced portions of said boxes].

13. (Previously Presented) An installation according to claim 1, wherein said plurality of standard profile members of said vertical frame arrangement are welded together to form a generally rectangular configuration.

14. (Previously Presented) An installation according to claim 1, wherein said plurality of standard profile members of each said box are welded together to form a generally parallelepiped-shaped configuration.

15. (Previously Presented) An installation according to claim 14, wherein the plurality of standard profile members of each box comprise four standard profile members welded together

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to form an upper rectangular configuration; four standard profile members welded together to form a lower rectangular configuration; and four standard profile members each having an upper end welded to a corner of the upper rectangular configuration and a lower end welded to a corner of the lower rectangular configuration.

16. (Previously Presented) An installation according to claim 15, wherein said plurality of standard profile members of said vertical frame arrangement are welded together to form a generally rectangular configuration.